

## SENATORS BACK HEACOCK

Illion Man Their Choice for State Chairman, Says Newcomb.

## TO BE CONFERENCE TO-DAY

Progressives and Members of "Old Guard" United in Desire for Harmony.

With the names of ex-Speaker James W. Wadsworth, Jr., and Assemblyman E. A. Merritt, Jr., still occupying the most prominent places in the discussion of a successor to the late Mr. Prentice as chairman of the Republican State Committee, no member of the committee in the city last night would venture a prediction as to the final choice.

Senator Josiah T. Newcomb came down from Albany last night with a suggestion that, he says, is endorsed by almost all of the twenty-one Republican Senators elected last fall. Their candidate for the state chairmanship is Senator Seth G. Heacock, of the 23d district.

Mr. Heacock is serving his third term in the Senate. He is an oil producer, and lives at Ilion, in Herkimer County. It is said that he has practically turned his back on the city, and has both the means and the time to devote to the work of the organization.

It is understood that the wishes of the Senators will be conveyed to the State Committee in the form of a communication.

"We felt," said Senator Newcomb, "that we, representing large Republican areas all over the state, as shown by our re-election last year, should have something to say in regard to the selection of a state leader. We have talked the matter over carefully and thoughtfully and have come to the conclusion that no better man than Mr. Heacock could be selected. He is a man of great experience and power and would unite the various elements."

As to whether the sympathies of Senator Heacock had been with the Progressives or the "old guard," Senator Newcomb said that he had not taken part in factional differences.

Mr. Heacock was in the city last night and was in conference with William Barnes, Jr., of Albany. To-day they are expected to get together with Francis Hendricks, George W. Aldridge, William L. Ward and Timothy L. Wood, representing the "old guard," and talk over the situation from their point of view.

Lloyd C. Griscom, who led the Progressives at the Saratoga convention, expects a number of the Progressive members of the committee in the city to-day. They will have a talk and then get together with the "old guard," as the fixed determination of both sides seems to be to unite on a man who will receive the support of every one.

Word was sent that he was sick and probably would be unable to attend the meeting. Before to-night, however, a majority of the committeemen are expected to be in the city or to have been heard from, and it is hoped that an agreement can be reached before the meeting that has been called for noon to-morrow.

The name of Thomas W. Dunn, former State Treasurer, was put forth last night in a group of committeemen at the Republican Club. He is not a member of the committee, but that makes no difference. Chairman Prentice is not now a member of the committee, except by virtue of his office, as his place was taken by Mr. Griscom at the last convention.

Efforts have been made to reach Mr. Wadsworth without success. He sailed for Europe on the Cincinnati not long ago with the idea of getting off at Naples or Genoa and going from there to Algeria. Members of his family say that they do not know where to reach him now, but the attempt is being made, and possibly some word may be received before to-morrow. When he went away Mr. Wadsworth said he hoped they would not make him state chairman, and the argument is being used that it would not be right to force any man into the place without his consent. Mr. Wadsworth does not expect to be back until April.

Mr. Merritt, who is critical in regard to the state chairman act, as a minority leader in the Assembly. It was learned yesterday that in addition to counselling harmony, President Taft had suggested to those who sought his advice on the subject of chairmanship that Theodore Roosevelt be consulted. While Mr. Roosevelt has said that he did not care to put forth any candidate, it is known that he recently expressed the opinion that Assemblyman Merritt had many of the qualifications that would make a good state chairman.

## DIX DEPLORES DEADLOCK

Wants Senator Elected So Legislature Can Get to Work.

Governor Dix came to New York yesterday afternoon late, and went to the Hotel Knickerbocker at about 6 o'clock. He was accompanied only by his military secretary, Major De Kay. The Governor came to attend the dinner of the Holland Society at the Waldorf and to review the 4th Regiment. He said his attitude regarding the fight for the United States Senatorship was unchanged.

He was asked about the call that William F. Sheehan made upon him earlier in the day in Albany.

"It was largely a personal call," said Governor Dix, "and the Senatorial situation was touched upon only indirectly. But I can tell you this much," he added, "Mr. Sheehan did not ask me to come out in his behalf."

"Governor," some one asked, "do you think this deadlock is going to continue long? Do you think a compromise candidate will be agreed upon?"

"Really," he said, "I can't say. But I have hopes that it will be settled soon. I am anxious to see the Senatorship settled, because there is a great deal of important business to come up before the Legislature, and not much can be done before the Senator is elected."

Governor Dix said he had informed all appointed officers, including the officers of the state charitable institutions, the Superintendent of Prisons and the Superintendent of Banking, that he intended to make a detailed investigation of their departments and their work. He is going to ask for a special appropriation from the Legislature for this purpose.

## PARKER'S MIND UNCHANGED

Says in No Circumstances Would He Accept Senatorship.

Judge Parker, who has returned from Albany, waved away yesterday the Senate to-day which some persons seem to think is coming his way out of the deadlock. Asked if he would accept the Senatorship as a compromise candidate if he could be elected, the judge replied: "I do not care to speak of a situation that will not present itself, to assume even that there can be any circumstances under which a majority would think of naming me."

"I made it as clear as I could before the election in public speeches and the day afterward in interviews that my obligations were such that I could not accept the Senatorial office. Nothing has happened since to change my view; on the contrary it is strengthened, if that were possible, by the duty I am under now to support in so far as I can the right of majority rule."

As to the binding power of the caucus Judge Parker said: "I do not pretend to have studied the question. It is my impression, however, that the caucus direction is binding until after a new caucus be called and the rule changed."

Former Mayor Adam, of Buffalo, was in the city yesterday in an effort to get some of Edward M. Shepard's friends to induce him to withdraw. He called upon Mayor Gaynor, among others, but later the Mayor said they had simply talked of the Senatorship incidentally.

"If I were in Mr. Shepard's place," said Mr. Adam, "I would not hesitate to withdraw. He has only a few votes. As for Mr. Sheehan's record, it is just as good as that of others in the race. Ninety-nine per cent of the people in Buffalo, both Republicans and Democrats, are in favor of his candidacy. Of course, he has Mr. Murphy's support, but were not the friends of Mr. Shepard trying to get that same support?"

Insurgents Hold Meeting.

The insurgents who oppose the caucus choice of Mr. Sheehan held their usual afternoon meeting, and reported a full attendance of twenty-one and no change of attitude. Thus far they have failed to agree on a candidate, but Senator Roosevelt said to-night that they were making no effort to this end and still waiting for advances from the Sheehan men. "We acknowledge that Charles F. Murphy controls a majority of votes and is entitled to choose the candidate," he said, "but he must offer us a man we will stand for before he can get one of our votes. To this extent we control the situation."

The insurgent Democrats declared this afternoon that they were satisfied with their showing, and that they believed they had demonstrated to the Sheehan men that his election was impossible. "We intend to sit tight," said Senator Roosevelt, "the next move must come from the other side. We have not agreed upon any candidate, and I do not know of any plan at present to concentrate our strength on such a candidate. We will hold another meeting late this afternoon. I am confident that Mr. Sheehan cannot be elected."

Thomas M. Osborne, one of the leaders of the Sheehan committee, to-night received a telegram from the Jefferson Club of Los Angeles urging the Democratic members of the Legislature to vote for Edward M. Shepard. It was as follows:

The Jefferson Club of Los Angeles urges upon the Democratic members of the New York Legislature that the best interests of the national Democracy imperatively demand the election of Edward M. Shepard as United States Senator.

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The second joint ballot for United States Senator to-day only fastened the deadlock a little tighter. William F. Sheehan held his lead by a large margin, but lost two of his votes. Two more legislators attended to-day's joint session, making the majority necessary for election one hundred and leaving Mr. Sheehan twelve votes away from the goal, with a total of eighty-eight.

Two new candidates entered the official lists to-day and as all of the old ones received votes, the total number of candidates now stands at eight, not including the Republican choice, Senator De Witt.

The new men are ex-Supreme Court Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, of New York, and John D. Kernan, of Utica.

Assemblyman Terry, of Kings, who yesterday shifted from Shepard to Gerard, to-day changed again and voted for Mr. Kernan. The only other Kernan vote came from Assemblyman Bridenbecker, of Herkimer, who switched from Alton B. Parker. Judge O'Brien's single vote came from Assemblyman Shortt, of Richmond, who hitherto has voted for Sheehan. The second vote Sheehan lost went to Parker, and was cast by Assemblyman Hoyt, of Dutchess, who to-day joined ex-Lieutenant Governor Chanler, the other Dutchess County Assemblyman, in deserting Sheehan.

The total vote was as follows:

DEMOCRATS.  
Sheehan 88 Gerard 2  
Shepard 12 Kernan 2  
Parker 1 O'Brien 1  
Littell 1  
Total 100

REPUBLICANS.  
De Witt 81  
Necessary for choice, 100.

When Majority Leader Wagner, of the Senate, moved to adjourn after one ballot until noon to-morrow a few members objected, but the motion was carried without the general objection which threatened to force an immediate second ballot yesterday.

## SAY SHEEHAN OR NOBODY

(Continued from first page.)

sliding in by way of Sheehan's strength, because they are on the job to cut his heart out—politically, of course—before anything of the sort shall happen. Democratic harmony is one of the sweetest things in captivity, and this Senatorship contest is bringing into notice diverse varieties of the brand.

Another touching thing which was noted to-day was the solitude of William James Connors for the welfare of his erstwhile fellow townsman, Sheehan. Connors, arrayed in gladsome garb, approached "Joe" Cassidy in the Hotel lobby.

"Say, Joe," he ejaculated, jabbing a finger playfully at the most prominent section of the hemisphere which nestles behind Cassidy's waistcoat, "are this fellow Sheehan got a chance?" Before Cassidy could reply, that forefinger threatened him again, and the huge bulk of the Queens County politician shrank into convulsions so suddenly that when the answer came, it was merely a grunt, expelled with force.

Just what part the Republicans will play in the fight next week is the subject of much speculation. It is an open secret that some of the Sheehan workers are trying to land Republican votes to break the deadlock. The interest some Republican leaders are taking in the situation is most keen. It caused a prominent Republican to-day to remark:

"There is really no more partisanship in this Senatorship fight than there was last winter in the defeat of the Hughes direct nominations bill by the Barnes-Grady bipartisan combination. It's just a fight between the old order and the new, and the interests which are supporting Sheehan would just as soon have him elected by Republican votes as by Democratic."

John O'Brien on Scene.

John F. O'Brien, Republican leader of Clinton County, has been here for several days. He watches the Senatorship contest closely. He is highly annoyed at the shocking fashion in which Assemblyman Trombly, Democrat, who twice has beaten the O'Brien candidate in his county, has violated the cardinal principles of political regularity and subservience to the machine. So indignant does Mr. O'Brien consider this bolting of the caucus by Trombly that he felt impelled to read the recalcitrant legislator a long lecture on the fate of the independent in politics. Considering the fact that O'Brien did his best to defeat him, Mr. Trombly has taken this admonition deeply to heart.

Reports are afloat here, indefinite, that after a few more votes a number of upstate Republicans aligned with the "old guard" will break away from Dewey and vote for Sheehan. The first sign of such a break will be the signal for other Republicans to vote for Shepard or a Democrat of similar type and for some Democrats now supporting Sheehan in obedience to their conception of the caucus rule to abandon him and vote for another Democrat.

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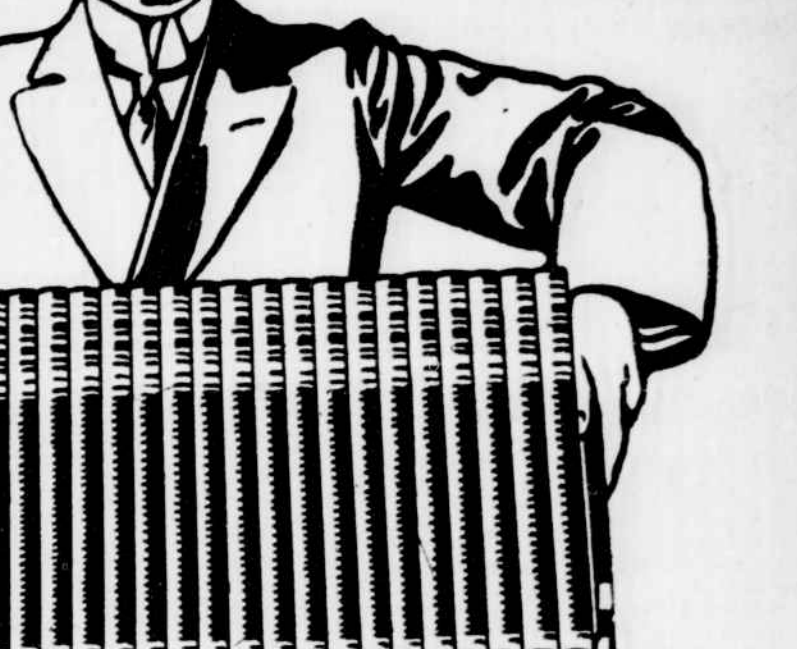
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